

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A plunger for a retractable syringe having a spring and a needle mount, said plunger comprising a first plunger member and a second plunger member that are releasably engaged during withdrawal and depression of said plunger to co-operatively maintain said spring in an initial compressed state, arranged so that rotational disengagement of said first plunger member and said second plunger member can facilitate decompression of said spring from the initial compressed state when required to force retraction of said first plunger member and said needle mount when engaged therewith, following depression of said plunger to deliver fluid contents of said syringe, wherein the second plunger member comprises a seal mounted thereto.
2. (Original) The plunger of Claim 1, wherein the first plunger member and the second plunger member are releasably engageable by a bayonet coupling.
3. (Previously Presented) The plunger of Claim 1 wherein said first plunger member is engageable with the needle mount to facilitate rotation of the first plunger member relative to the second plunger member.
4. (Previously Presented) The plunger of Claim 1, wherein the first plunger member comprises a needle mount engagement device.
5. (Currently Amended) The plunger of ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 4, wherein the needle mount engagement device comprises two barbed arms.
6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) A retractable syringe comprising a plunger, a barrel, a spring and a needle mount, said plunger comprising a first plunger member and a second plunger member that are releasably engaged during withdrawal and depression of said plunger to co-operatively maintain said spring in an initial compressed state and are rotationally disengageable to facilitate decompression of said spring to force retraction of said

first plunger member and said needle mount, when engaged therewith, following depression of said plunger to deliver fluid contents of said syringe, wherein the second plunger member comprises a seal mounted thereto.

8. (Original) The retractable syringe of Claim 7, wherein the first plunger member and the second plunger member are engaged by a bayonet coupling.

9. (Previously Presented) The retractable syringe of Claim 7, wherein the first plunger member is engageable with the needle mount to facilitate rotation of the first plunger member relative to the second plunger member.

10. (Previously Presented) The retractable syringe of Claim 7, wherein the first plunger member comprises a needle mount engagement device.

11. (Previously Presented) The retractable syringe of Claim 10, wherein the needle mount engagement device comprises two barbed arms.

12. (Original) The retractable syringe of Claim 11, wherein the needle mount comprises recesses that are respectively engageable by the barbed arms.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The retractable syringe of Claim 7, further comprising a collar mounted to the barrel.

15. (Previously Presented) The retractable syringe of Claim 14, wherein said collar comprises one or more projections capable of co-operating with one or more abutments of said first plunger member to form a plunger disabling device that is capable of preventing subsequent depression and/or withdrawal of said first plunger member following retraction of the needle mount.

16. (Previously Presented) The retractable syringe of Claim 15, wherein the first plunger member comprises steps, and wherein the one or more projections comprise two pawls that are engageable with respective steps on said first plunger member to co-

operably prevent subsequent depression said first plunger member following retraction of the needle mount and thereby prevent syringe re-use.

17. (Previously Presented) The retractable syringe of Claim 15, wherein the first plunger member comprises ledges, and wherein the one or more projections comprise two ribs that are engageable with respective ledges on said first plunger member to co-operably prevent subsequent withdrawal of said first plunger member following retraction of the needle mount and thereby prevent syringe re-use.

18. (Previously Presented) A retractable syringe comprising:
a barrel;
a collar mounted to the barrel and comprising two ribs and two pawls;
a retraction spring;
a needle mount located at a needle end of the barrel; and
a plunger operably located in said barrel and engageable with said needle mount, said plunger comprising:
a first plunger member having two steps and two ledges; and
a second plunger member and a seal mounted thereto;
wherein the first plunger member and the second plunger member are releasably coupled during withdrawal and depression of said plunger to co-operatively maintain said spring in an initial compressed state and can subsequently be rotatably uncoupled to facilitate decompression of said spring to force retraction of said first plunger member and said needle mount when engaged therewith following depression of said plunger to deliver fluid contents of said syringe and wherein said two pawls are engageable with respective steps on said first plunger member to co-operably prevent subsequent depression said first plunger member and said two ribs are engageable with respective ledges on said first plunger member to co-operably prevent subsequent withdrawal of said first plunger member following retraction of the needle mount and a needle.

19. (Previously Presented) The syringe of Claim 18, arranged so that following retraction of the first plunger member, the needle mount and the needle, said second plunger member and said seal remain at a needle end of the barrel thereby preventing refilling and re-use of the syringe.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of making a plunger for a syringe, the method comprising:

releasably engaging a first plunger member and a second plunger member so that during withdrawal and depression of said plunger the first plunger member and the second plunger member co-operatively maintain a spring in an initial compressed state;

arranging so that rotational disengagement of the first plunger member and the second plunger member decompresses the spring from the initial compressed state to force retraction of the first plunger member and a needle mount when engaged therewith, following depression of the plunger to deliver fluid contents of the syringe, wherein the second plunger member comprises a seal mounted thereto.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the releasably engaging the first plunger member and the second plunger member further comprises releasably engaging the first plunger member and the second plunger member by a bayonet coupling.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20 wherein the arranging further comprises arranging the first plunger member to be disengaged from the second plunger member by the first plunger member engaging the needle mount to facilitate rotation of the first plunger member relative to the second plunger member.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the first plunger member further comprises a needle mount engagement device.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the needle mount engagement device comprises two barbed arms.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method of making a retractable syringe, the method comprising:

providing a plunger, a barrel, a spring and a needle mount;

releasably engaging a first plunger member and a second plunger member so that during withdrawal and depression of said plunger the first plunger member and the second plunger member co-operatively maintain the spring in an initial compressed state; and

arranging so that rotational disengagement of the first plunger member and the second plunger member decompresses the spring to force retraction of the first plunger member and the needle mount, when engaged therewith, following depression of the plunger to deliver fluid contents of the syringe, wherein the second plunger member further comprises a seal mounted thereto.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein the releasably engaging the first plunger member and the second plunger member further comprises releasably engageable the first plunger member and the second plunger member by a bayonet coupling.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein the arranging further comprises arranging the first plunger member to be disengaged from the second plunger member by the first plunger member engaging the needle mount to facilitate rotation of the first plunger member relative to the second plunger member.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 26, wherein the first plunger member further comprises a needle mount engagement device.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 29, wherein the needle mount engagement device comprises two barbed arms.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 30, wherein the needle mount further comprises recesses that are respectively engageable by the barbed arms.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 26, further comprising mounting a collar to the barrel.

34. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 33, wherein the collar comprises one or more projections capable of co-operating with one or more abutments of the first plunger member to form a plunger disabling device that is capable of preventing subsequent depression and/or withdrawal of the first plunger member following retraction of the needle mount.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 34, wherein the one or more projections comprise two pawls that are engageable with respective steps on the first plunger member to co-operably prevent subsequent depression the first plunger member following retraction of the needle mount and prevent syringe re-use.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 34, wherein the one or more projections comprise two ribs that are engageable with respective ledges on the first plunger member to co-operably prevent subsequent withdrawal of the first plunger member following retraction of the needle mount and prevent syringe re-use.